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Newsletter

Number 07

22 March 2013



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

.. to Gavin Donnelly and Murray Woolston for clearing some storm water drains for us this week.

People of the week

.. Max and Xanthe ... congratulations on your selection for the forthcoming Ski Nationals.

.. Belinda ... congratulations on your selection to represent Northland at a forthcoming world series golf tournament in Cambodia.

..Natasha for achieving 1st, 2nd & 3rds in her races at the Northland Athletics Championships last weekend ..

Please keep us informed of the achievements of present and past pupils so that we can celebrate these together.

Business Sponsorship of Matarau School

We would like to hear from those interested in becoming school sponsors for the 2013 year. If you are interested in what sponsorship for the school might mean for your business please contact Mary Finlayson on 437 0441 or 0274 525 398 or mezandken@gmail.com. Sponsors are asked to make a donation of \$500 per year.

Term Events

Please pencil the following dates into your calendar. We will advise of further dates as these come to hand.

26 March	Year 4 to 6 Summer Sports Tournament
29 March	Good Friday
1/2 April	Easter Monday and Tuesday
19 April	Final day term 1

Year 4-6 Summer Sports Tournament

A reminder that year 4 to 6 children will participate in an Interschool Summer Sports Tournament on Tuesday 26 March (pp 27.3). Children will depart school by bus shortly after 9:00 AM, returning by 3:00 PM. Please ensure children wear their Matarau T-shirts and sunhats, bring their lunch and drink bottle and maybe some warm clothing for between games. Any questions please to Mr Schuster. Please note that the sports tournament replaces regular classes on this day.

Child Disability Allowance

Some of you may not be aware that parents may be entitled to a Disability Allowance for children who require constant attention and supervision substantially in excess of that normally required of a child their age .. especially if the needs are physical ones. This allowance is not income tested and needs the endorsement of your GP. Forms are available from WINZ.

Mobile Ear Clinic

... will be located outside the Bush Road Medical Centre from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM on Wednesday 3 April. No appointments necessary. Pre-schoolers welcome.

Virtues programme 2013

This year our virtues programme will 'springboard' off the concept of choice. This term classes will explore what choice is, what are the differences between good and not so good choices, how do choices impact on us now and in the future, what are our 'choice triggers' and so forth. You will be invited to explore some of these questions with us. More to follow.

PGG Wrightson - cash For Communities

Last year the farming community raised over \$150,000 for schools via the above programme. Any farmer who purchases Balance Agri-Nutrients fertiliser or selected agri-chemicals or seed between 4.2 and 31.5 can earn cash for their school. Just nominate Matarau School at your local PGG Wrightson store or visit www.pggwright

Year 8 Girls HPV Vaccination Forms

A number of forms have not been returned. If you received a form and have not returned it to school please return this **as soon as possible**. Any questions can be addressed to the public health nurse on 0800 223 358 (option 3 or 5) or 021 272 2991/3. Mon-Fri 8-4.30pm. Vaccinations will take place on Thursday 28 March.

Fundraising parent Helper Form - only about 25% returned

A huge thank you to those parents who have returned a form indicating willingness to assist in some way with at least one fundraising event this year. Remember this is a chance to fairly share any fund-raising load across the wider parent body. You only have to nominate yourself for **one event** and then you will not be called on again. The funds are used to directly support learning through purchase of resources for the benefit of all children. **So ... if you have not returned your form please do so within the next couple of weeks.** Any questions please to Sharon Smith on the Board.

School Fire Alarms .. carried over from last week

Over this weekend the school alarms are being tested so neighbouring houses if you hear the alarms going please ignore.

Forthcoming Board Elections

If interested in what being on a Board of Trustees involves you might like to visit www.trustee-election.co.nz

International Schools English and Mathematics Competitions

Registration forms were sent home this week with those children who expressed interest or who indicated that their parents wished them to be involved. If you did not receive a form, and would like one, please contact our school office next week. Forms and registration fees are due back at school no later than 8 April please.

Please don't hesitate to contact Kevin (or your child's teacher) with any questions.

A reminder that year 8 students ..

- .. are automatically enrolled in the Maths Competition
- .. are not required to pay a registration fee for the maths (although will need to pay for the English Competition)
- .. are not eligible for the After School Maths Labs



Turbo-touch .. after school

Sessions began last week and will take place Thursdays 3:30 to 4:30. This programme is an ideal opportunity for children to grow their sports skills and develop self-esteem. If you would like your child involved, and have not yet registered them, please contact Miss Williams at school for information.



Matarau School Hockey Teams

If your child is interested in playing hockey for Matarau, please contact Kristine Redwood on 433 5885 or Karlene Smith on 433 8407. Information on teams and practice days will be sent home with the children next week. Coaches will be needed this year so if you are able to help please let Kristine or Karlene know.

After School Maths Labs – Mondays and Thursdays 3:30-4:30

Labs started this Monday for those involved in the maths labs last term.

A number of additional families will have received a letter this week inviting them to take up some of the available spaces in these labs. Spaces are limited and so it is crucial that you advise Mrs Donaldson no later than Monday of your acceptance or non-acceptance of these places if you have not already done so. Any questions please to Mrs Donaldson.

Learning support programmes

A reminder to parents of children involved in Mrs Comrie's programmes that Mrs Comrie is more than happy to answer questions and/or for parents to sit in on sessions.

Literacy Labs

Parents of children nominated for the literacy labs were advised this week. The focus will be on basic parts of speech, sentence building, punctuation and proof-reading. Literacy Labs will run each **Wednesday 3:30 to 4:30 PM**. **Please contact Kevin with any questions.**

Guitar Lessons

There are a number of vacancies in this popular after school programme (Wednesday & Thursday in the Old School Room – by the upper car park). Cost \$20 per lesson. Vangie has a spare guitar for kids trying out. If interested please phone Vangie on 434 7573 or 021 1883251, or email killalea@ihug.co.nz

If interested ..

.. in yoga classes in our school hall for as little as \$5.00 a lesson on a Wednesday after school please give Susan Pryor a call on 094339578 or 0212084167 (this is a much reduced rate and Susan is well qualified for this role). There is some interest already but numbers need to lift somewhat for this to be viable. Susan is more than happy to answer any questions.

Final Thought

Some of you will know that this week teachers from around New Zealand attended a number of Paid Union Meetings to discuss the stalling of recent pay talks. Many schools closed for the afternoon and sent children home so that all of their teachers could attend these meetings. I thought it worthy of mention that, in order not to disadvantage children or inconvenience families, Matarau School has always managed to keep the school open and programmes running relatively normally on such days. I am grateful to **all** staff for working together towards this end.

Regards
Kevin Trewhella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them

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KILL THE SPEED, NOT THE CHILD!

Rural Women New Zealand has been campaigning for better awareness of the 20km/h speed limit past school buses for several years, and they would like to remind rural school communities of the 20km/h speed limit in both directions when passing a school bus that has stopped to let pupils on or off the bus. In the 23 years from 1987, 23 children were killed in NZ when crossing the road to or from school buses. 47 were seriously injured and 92 received minor injuries.

If drivers observed the 20km/h speed limit, these lives would have been saved. Please slow down.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Wanted – any house to rent, 2-3 bedroom, Matarau area. Phone Sylvia 0220965463.

Flatmate Wanted – 1 room to rent in Hikurangi \$80 per wk (negotiable) + power. You can have the use of the garage too. I'm a nightshift person, so I'll see you in the weekends. You'll have to cook for yourself. Phone Glenis 0220337812.

Ruatangata Hockey Club Registration and Rally Day, for school years 2 to 8, Sunday 24th March 9-10.30am at Kensington Hockey Turf. A & B grade (years 7-8) tryouts at 9am. Any queries phone Debbie 4371480 "

Kamo Rugby Squash Club Junior Club nights for 8 years and up, Monday nights from 18th March, and throughout terms 2 and 3, from 3.30 to 5.30. New players welcome to come and 'Have a Go' on Monday's in term one, just bring clean shoes - we have racquets to borrow. A series of 'Small-Nix Squash' sessions for 5 - 7 year olds will be held in term 2 (Friday nights - dates to be confirmed).

Enquiries welcome - email Fiona Moselen fiandmoose@xtra.co.nz or phone 4370730

St Francis Xavier Catholic School Gala - Saturday 23 March, 2013, 9.00am - 2.00pm, 1 Percy St, Kensington. A great fun filled day out for all the family. Every visitor can enter our **FREE** Gate Prize Draw to win a 24" Flat Screen TV. There will be lots of rides, games, stalls, fabulous food and free all day entertainment. Auction starts at 11.00am.

Moments in Time Events would love to plan your events for you. Weddings .. Engagement Parties .. Milestone Birthdays and much more. Give me a call to see how hassle free I can make organising your Special Event. I will make the occasion the most memorable day for you and your guests. Call Mandy Hampshire – 435 0559 or 0211018361.

Looking for a little after school drama? Then Join in - Making A Scene; Confidence Building Drama Classes on Tuesdays at the Riverside Theatre from 3:30pm ages 6 and up. Also: Speech & Drama Tuition for students looking to develop acting and speaking skills. Competitions and exam focus for more ambitious kids. Helen Ph 433 0288.



BURGLARIES OCCURRING IN YOUR AREA

Police would like to make you aware that there have been numerous burglaries to rural properties over the past two months in the Mangakahia, Kokopu, Maungatapere and Maungakarema Area. We need your assistance to help locate the offender(s), recover the property and to prevent future burglaries

occurring.

A large amount of farm machinery ranging from quad bikes, tractors, trailers, tools and chainsaws have been stolen and are yet to be recovered. If you have any information surrounding these burglaries or have seen anything suspicious including persons/vehicles please contact me. All information is confidential.

Constable Natasha Waterhouse, Whangarei Police Enquiry Section: .DDI: 094304533
natasha.waterhouse@police.govt.nz.


Attached is some information to help reduce the risk of burglaries:

- * Lock your doors, windows, sheds, garages, if necessary padlock farm sheds.
 - * Communicate with your neighbours: they can keep an eye on your address.
 - * If you're on holiday, arrange for someone to collect your mail and to mow lawns.
 - * Remove keys from vehicles. Close access gates
 - * Note down suspicious registrations - often burglars will scope out an address first.
 - * Keep valuables out of sight.
 - * Record all serial numbers and photograph expensive or significant items.
- The SNAP website (www.snap.org.nz) is a good way to record all your possessions.

Help your kids save their way to what they want.

Whether it's new wheels or the latest Xbox game, ASB school banking can help your kids reach their goal by teaching them the value of saving a little each week. Plus, if they reach their goal, they could win a Samsung Galaxy tablet for their classroom.

For more information contact your school office.



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